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THIRTY-SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LAWRENCE CITY MISSION.

PRESENTED AT THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING,

SUNDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 8,

1891.

Charity Should Do Five Things:

1. Act upon knowledge acquired by intelligent investigation.
2. Relieve worthy need promptly, adequately and kindly.
3. Prevent unwise alms to the unworthy.
4. Raise into independence every needy person where it is possible.
5. Make sure that no children grow up to be paupers.

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LAWRENCE CITY MISSION.

Organized March, 1859.

Incorporated June, 1876.

PRESIDENT, - - - - - -	GILBERT E. HOOD.
TREASURER, - - - - - -	JAMES H. KIDDER.
AUDITOR, - - - - - -	HIRAM F. MILLS.
SECRETARY, - - - - - -	CLARK CARTER.

MEMBERS FOR 1891–92.

ALDRED, JOHN,
AMORY, REV. A. H.,
BARLOW, SAMUEL,
BARRELL, WILLIAM A.,
BEACH, LAURANDUS,
BOYNTON, REV. F. H.,
BRUCKMAN, HERMAN,
BUELL, H. A.,
BURLEY, E. T.
BUTLER, A. E.,
BUTLER, FREDERICK,
BUZZELL, JONATHAN Y.,
CABOT, GEORGE D.,
CARTER, REV. CLARK,
CHASE, REV. E. A.,
CLARKE, FREDERICK E.,
COUCH, HENRY J.,
FORSYTH, JOHN,
GARDNER, REV. F. M.,
GIBBS, REV. WM. E.,
HARTSHORNE, W. D.,
HERRICK, HORATIO G.,
HINCHCLIFFE, W. J.
HOOD, GILBERT E.,
HORNE, J. H.,
HUMPHREYS, C. J. R.,
JEALOUS, F. H.,
KEESE, REV. W. A.,
KIDDER, DR. J. H.,
KUNHARDT, GEORGE E.,
LAMPREY, A. A.,
LORD, DANIEL W.,
LYALL, JAMES B.,
MATHEWS, REV. HARRY,
MCALPINE, WM. T.,
MCAYEAL, REV. R. A., D. D.,
MCDUFFIE, FREDERICK C.,
MELVIN, N. P. H.,
MILLS, HIRAM F.,
MILLS, HUGH,
MOOERS, ELIJAH M.,
MOSES, KIRK W.,
PARKER, WALTER E.,
RAMSDEN, REV. WILLIAM,
RUSSELL, GEORGE W.,
RYDER, REV. F. W.,
SARGENT, G. W., M. D.,
SELDEN, GEORGE L.,
SHARPE, ANDREW,
SHATTUCK, JOSEPH,
SHERMAN, WM. F.,
SMITH, GEORGE A.,
SPENCER, REV. H. A.,
SPOONER, REV. THOMAS,
STEARNS, A. W.,
STONE, ANDREW C.,
TYRIE, REV. THOMAS,
VARNEY, JUSTIN E.,
WOLCOTT, REV. W. E.,
WOOD, REV. HENRY,
YOUNG, REV. GEORGE H.

OFFICE, 206 ESSEX STREET. HOURS, 9 to 10 A. M., 3 to 5 P. M.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The thirty-second annual meeting of the Lawrence City Mission was called for Thursday evening, October 29, 1891. A quorum not being present however, adjournment was voted to Saturday evening, October 31.

At the adjourned meeting the annual report of the Secretary was presented, adopted as the report of the Mission, ordered to be read at the public anniversary, and to be printed, together with the report of the Treasurer. The President and Secretary were directed to arrange for the Anniversary to be held in the City Hall on Sunday evening, November 8, at 8 o'clock.

The old board of officers was unanimously re-elected, namely:

President, ...	GILBERT E. HOOD.
Treasurer, ...	JAMES H. KIDDER.
Auditor, ...	HIRAM F. MILLS.
Secretary, ...	CLARK CARTER.

The following gentlemen were elected to membership in the Lawrence City Mission: Revs. Henry Mathews, F. W. Ryder and George H. Young, and Mr. Justin E. Varney.

ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES.

The public anniversary was held in the City Hall on Sunday evening, November 8, at 8 o'clock. The singing was by the quartette choir of the First Baptist church. Prayer was offered by Rev. George H. Young of the Unitarian church. The reports of the Treasurer and Secretary were read. An address was delivered by Rev. F. W. Ryder of the First Baptist church. It was an eloquent and persuasive argument for the abolition of pauperism, and it showed that this abolition would come so soon as the public conscience was aroused to the white heat of indignation against the evil of the present social life. Meanwhile the City Mission must pursue its work of investigation, and of superficial relief. The benediction was pronounced by Rev. H. A. Spencer, of the First Methodist church.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RELIEF FUND.

Oct. 1, 1890, Balance on hand,	$ 277 94
Received from Grace Church,	73 54
Trinity Church,	113 43
Lawrence Street Church,	208 45
Presbyterian Church,	20 00
Second Baptist Church,	30 00
St. John's Church,	17 71
South Congregational Church,	21 43
Church of the Good Shepherd,	75 00
Haverhill Street M. E. Church,	67 00
German Presbyterian Church,	15 00
Free Baptist Church,	11 81
Riverside Congregational Church,	3 18
Trinity Sunday School,	16 43

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS.

H. F. Mills,	$ 25 00
A Friend,	5 00
Clara Prescott,	5 00
Cash,	4 00
A Friend,	5 00
R. N. Fisher,	2 00
Society of Friends,	1 00
Cash,	1 50
Samuel White,	10 00
Cash,	2 94
Taylor & Co.,	5 00
Christmas Offerings,	52 47
Fresh Air Fund,	32 25
Special Cases,	390 05
Returned by Beneficiaries,	62 22
Received from Salary Fund the amount loaned that Fund in 1887,	263 75
Total amount received,	$1,818 10
Paid out for relief,	1,440 99
Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1891,	$377 11

RECEIVED FOR SALARY FUND.

Oct. 1, 1890, balance on hand,		$ 167 74
Pacific Mills,		375 00
Pemberton Mills,		67 50
Essex Company,		75 00
Everett Mills,		120 00
Atlantic Mills,		150 00
Arlington Mills,		300 00
Duck Mills,		45 00
Butler & Robinson,		10 00
Stanley & Co.,		15 00
Farwell Bleachery,		25 00
E. Davis & Son,		10 00
Merrimack Valley R. R.,		15 00
Lawrence Lumber Co.,		10 00
Russell Paper Co.,		20 00
Phillips & Kunhardt,		25 00
Lawrence Gas Co.,		75 00
Total,		$1,505 24
Paid Salary of City Missionary,	$1,200 00	
Paid to Relief Fund the amount borrowed from that fund in 1887,	263 75	
		$1,463 75
Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1891,		$41 49

LAWRENCE, NOV. 3, 1891.

I have examined the accounts of J. H. Kidder, Treasurer of the Lawrence City Mission, for the past year, and find them with proper vouchers for the money paid out.

HIRAM F. MILLS, *Auditor.*

THIRTY-SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LAWRENCE CITY MISSION.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

This thirty-second annual report of the Lawrence City Mission might be condensed into the one expression—plain plodding. There has been no great emergency to meet, such as was presented by the tornado of the previous year; and there has been no conspicuous achievement in any department of our varied work.

Reference to the appendices of this report will show that during the year 2299 calls have been received at the office of the mission; precisely the same number as during the previous year. Of these, 880 were for the purpose of consultation or of seeking advice; 136 were applications for work; and 1283 were applications for

aid. What was done in consequence of these calls is statistically shown in the first appendix. The total expenditure of money in relief has been $1314.97, a sum larger than that expended for this purpose for many years. This does not indicate a larger amount of poverty existing during the past year than usual; it is rather a proof of the growing confidence of the public in the methods of the mission; for during the past year, as the Treasurer's report will show, nearly $500 have been entrusted to the mission for special cases; most of them where benefactors have chosen the mission as the almoner of their gifts. The care and distribution of these special gifts have occupied no little of the missionary's time and attention, and he has been glad to do the work. But the figures should not be used as a reason for not giving as freely as usual to the several funds of the mission. The increased income and the corresponding expenditure rather suggest the necessity of still more generous giving for the year to come.

The second appendix presents the data for an interesting study in the causes of poverty. Fifty-nine per cent. of the new cases presented during the year were of foreign birth. A very large portion of the remainder were children of foreigners. And this might be expected in a city whose population is of such a cosmopolitan character. A manufacturing city like Lawrence

is the centre of attraction for unskilled labor. Large families of various nationalities flock hither, and when misfortune overtakes them are utterly unprepared to meet it. The Missionary recently visited a family, newly arrived in this city, where there were nine children under 17 years of age. The father had been sick; two boys were earning, each about four dollars a week; there was a babe five weeks old apparently dying. Is it strange that the four children who were of school age were staying at home because of insufficient clothing to appear in public? And was it not proper that we should aid in fitting them to attend school? Many of the contributors to the treasury of the Mission are themselves of foreign birth or parentage; and many of the most substantial of our fellow citizens came to our city from other lands, almost penniless. Ignorance of letters is apparently not a considerable factor in the production of poverty. Our native born people of the present generation have been compelled to learn; and of the foreign born applicants for aid it is only a few beside the aged who can not read and write.

The statistics concerning the marital state of applicants for aid show that the largest number (105 out of 287), are single men. Many of these are tramps, a considerable number are men just discharged from our local House of

Correction, and a few are unfortunate unemployed men resident in our city. The last-named class usually need but little assistance. Only long continued sickness can justify any unmarried young man in applying to such an institution either for aid or for work. The discharged prisoners present a different and often a serious problem. No matter what caused the man's arrest, whether drunkenness or other crime, our Christian sympathies suggest doing what we can to help him resist renewed temptation. We therefore are in the habit of giving such clothing as is absolutely essential to such a man's comfort. We occasionally provide a day's board at a respectable house; we often assist in finding employment; and very rarely we supply transportation from the city. We, however, exercise the utmost care to make it difficult for a discharged prisoner to get an intoxicating drink. But we have to confess ourselves often foiled. Philanthropy must indeed be wide awake when a man will pawn his only coat in a cold day in order to quench his thirst for alcohol.

But the tramp presents the most puzzling problem to the student of charity. The tramps are of every age from 15 years to 75, of every race and language, of every degree of intelligence from the green immigrant to the versatile reporter, the ingenious printer and the broken litterateur. Some tramps are disgusted with

their life, and really desirous of settling down to regular work; more perhaps are in love with their idle liberty, and will only work under compulsion. A few are fairly truthful; the majority are apparently incapable of veracity. To turn these wayfarers away from every private door at which they apply for food or clothing, to permit them to enjoy the hard couches of the lock-up for not even two nights in succession, to rout them out of freight cars and open sheds where they creep after dark for an uneasy slumber, and to convict and sentence them as vagrants if they are seen loitering about the street corners in the day time, is indeed a severe and apparently cruel treatment. On the other hand to provide comfortable lodgings and sufficient food, even where these can be conditioned on work in the wood yard or at the stone-heap, offers a reward to vagrancy, and invites to the city providing such charity an unwelcome army of idlers and thieves. It is painful to think that our refusal to aid a tramp may drive him to crime as the only means of sustaining life. But this is not the real alternative. An honest man need not starve. It is always better to find honorable shelter in the almshouse either of the town or the State, than to resort to crime and to merit sentence to the House of Correction. And it certainly is not a blessed experience to find that our generosity to a tramp has actually made

it easier for him to injure the good people around us. We have rarely had the privilege of so aiding a tramp as to see him living industriously for several months. We have more frequently aided only to learn a little later that our sympathies and good intentions were entirely misplaced. Within the year lodging was provided for a crippled young man, and so he was given an opportunity to indulge in Lawrence his favorite propensity for stealing lead pipe from unfinished houses. Last winter we found an old man lying in what his wife, who was with him, called a malarial chill, on the snow by the roadside. We brought them both in a hack to our office, drew out their story, proposed an efficient plan of relief for both of them, left them to go out and perfect the arrangements in their behalf, returned to find the office vacated, and three hours later had the mournful satisfaction of visiting them at the police station, whither they had been brought for thefts committed just after leaving the office. On the expiration of their sentence in the House of Correction they conferred upon Lawrence the favor of a speedy departure from town.

The tramp problem is indeed an important one. The only principles which can be helpful in its solution are, first, cordial sympathy for the tramp as a man; second, a fixed purpose to compel him to abandon the life of a vagrant; third, a hardened determination to seek the

fullest possible intelligence concerning each individual; and fourth, a vigorous enforcement of the laws against vagrancy. The wise and kindly course for the private citizen to follow in dealing with the tramp, as with every other beggar, at the door, is to refer every one to the Police Station or to the City Mission. It is the only way to defend the city from the constant annoyance of their visits, and the only way to help them on to honest self support.

But there is more agreeable work at the City Mission office than studying the tramp problem. If you turn to the report of decisions rendered concerning new applicants you will see that 12 were evidently in need of continuous relief. It has been a pleasant duty to arrange for the regular and adequate care of such cases. You will notice that 18 were decided to be in need of in-door relief. These were advised to receive care either in hospitals or almshouses; and in most cases the advice was gladly received and acted upon. There were 92 cases where temporary aid was needed, and this was provided, either from the Mission funds direct, or by reference to some other charitable agency. The rendering of assistance in such worthy cases of real want is always a pleasure, and the City Missionary has many rich experiences of personal appreciation shown for his efforts to alleviate suffering. But it is difficult to select

individual illustrations of this class of cases for a public report, lest we do violence to a proper sense of personal delicacy. We may, however, say that in several instances we have been able to relieve financial embarassment by small loans, which have been faithfully repaid. We have secured gratuitous or inexpensive legal advice for worthy persons who were utterly ignorant of the proper methods of delivering themselves from oppression; we have provided physicians and nurses for the sick, have found employment for the discouraged searchers for work; have even secured recovery of sight for the blind. These pleasant achievements we report, beside the statistical enumeration of garments, fuel, groceries, &c., bestowed upon worthy applicants.

A better understanding of the Mission's work may perhaps be given, if we assure you that any one may bring to its office any complaint or inquiry touching upon any human need, with the assurance that a patient hearing will be given, and that careful study will be made to answer the question, or remove the cause for complaint. Take one instance as an illustration of many. A young woman with her little child, driven from home in another city by a cruel husband, was compelled by hunger to ask for food from door to door. She was referred to the City Mission. As work was her real need, the woman being both able and willing

to work, her immediate wants were promptly met, and temporary employment was supplied. Later on, no permanent employment being obtainable, she was advised to go home to her father's house in a neighboring city; and we secured her acceptance of our advice by writing to her father a plain statement of her needs. She really needed a guardian while away from home, and the City Mission provided her one until she had learned enough to go back to her father.

During the month of August the attention of the City Missionary was called to a case of sickness where the attending physician had prescribed a brief residence at the sea-shore. We were not at liberty to draw from the regular relief fund for the purpose of providing such an outing. But a generous friend, who was familiar with the case, gave us ten dollars to secure a compliance with the physician's advice. This was the nest egg of a "Fresh Air Fund," which was afterward increased by special contributions to the sum of $32.25, and which secured for three invalids a brief enjoyment of much needed rest and change of scene. We would recommend that another year this "Fresh Air Fund" be started earlier, and that it may be more generously sustained. Every summer we become acquainted with cases where great benefit, as well as great happiness, can be conferred by the use of a little money expended for board in the country.

Since the Lawrence City Mission was first organized, many other and highly useful, charitable and philanthropic institutions have sprung into being in our city. Notable among them is the "Ladies' Union Charitable Society" which has so ably equipped and managed the Children's Home, the General Hospital, and the Training School for Nurses. Indeed, our former Secretary, Rev. C. U. Dunning, pointed out the necessity, and was active in the promotion, of these beneficent enterprises. He also for a long time carried on the Band of Hope as a branch of the Mission work. For years Lawrence has had its efficient Young Men's Christian Association, equipped with reading room, special classes of instruction, gymnasium, and tennis courts. Later on has come the Boy's Club as a factor in training the rising generation; and within a year past our Roman Catholic fellow citizens, not intending to be left behind in the grand philanthropic movements of the age, have formed their Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and their Ladies Aid Society. The City Mission cordially welcomes each new co-worker in this ripe field of charitable endeavor. But as yet we look in vain for one more much needed benefaction. With the broad Merrimack flowing through our city, furnishing power for our mills, and a delightful resort for boating in summer and for skating in winter, we have yet no proper or

adequate facilities for the bath. A movement was started last summer by your City Missionary to secure from our city government the providing of at least one free bathing house on the river, in order that the nuisance of promiscuous nude bathing along the banks might be abated. The effort failed for this year, but we look forward to 1892, in confident expectation that an institution desired by citizens of every shade of political opinion will be promptly inaugurated.

But what shall our poor people do for a winter bath, unless private benevolence come to the front, and subscribe for the fitting up of appropriate accommodations in some central locality? If some of our good people, who believe that "cleanliness is next to godliness" would contribute two thousand dollars, or a little more, your Missionary is confident that such accommodation could be fitted up, and that once well started the enterprise could be made nearly self-supporting.

We cannot close this report without calling your attention to the fact that Intemperance is this year, as it was last, shown to be responsible, directly or indirectly, for the larger part of the need among the poor of our city. Not only does the inebriate himself suffer, but his wife and children are reduced to want. The City Missionary is familiar, even to weariness, with the story of want and misery incident to a father's or a mother's

inebriety, and he desires to declare officially that "high license," after more than a year's trial, is proved to be an encourager of drunkenness, and a stimulator of the debasing "kitchen bar-room." How any one who has compassion on suffering childhood, or who desires its training in virtue, how any one who values the well-being of our toiling thousands, or who really loves his fellow men, can ask that Lawrence legalize the sale of intoxicating liquors, baffles the imagination of one who is familiar with its awful consequences.

APPENDIX A.

Report of the office work of the Lawrence City Mission from Oct. 1, 1890 to Sept. 30, 1891.

Total calls at the office	2299
Applications for relief	1283
Applications for work	136
Calls for consultations or advice	880
Temporary work found	23
Permanent work found	5
Garments given away	536
Yards of cloth given	742
Pairs of shoes given	166
Hats given	43
Orders for provisions given	233
Orders for coal	71
Orders for wood	39
Orders for medicine	28
Rent paid	3
Transportation provided	46
Aided to enter institutions	12
Calls made by the secretary	573
Letters and postals written	558

Mission funds expended in relief	$1314 97
Mission funds loaned	28 00
Pemberton Relief Fund expended	451 20
Miller Relief Fund expended	194 50
Printing, stationery, and office expenses	158 91

APPENDIX B.

Report of new cases presented for consideration at the office of the Lawrence City mission during the year from Oct. 1, 1890 to Sept. 30, 1891.

NATIVITY.

United States, (white)	119.5
United States, (colored)	.5
Canadian	14
English	56.5
German	4
Irish	65.5
Scotch	19.5
Other countries	7.5
Total	287

EDUCATION.

Can read and write	212
Can read but not write	0
Can neither read nor write	75

MARITAL STATE.

Married couples	100
Widows	29
Deserted wives	10
Single women	14
Deserted husbands and widowers	29
Single men	105

CHIEF CAUSE OF NEED.

Accident	6
Imprisonment of bread winner	8
Insanity	1
Insufficient earnings	2
Intemperance	79
Lack of employment	51
No male support	8
Physical defect	2
Shiftlessness or inefficiency	15
Sickness and old age	73

DECISIONS.

Should have continuous relief	12
Should have temporary relief	92
Needing work rather than relief	101
Should have in-door relief	18
Should have transportation from the city	17
Should be disciplined	5
Not requiring aid	42

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

LAWRENCE CITY MISSION.

ARTICLE I. NAME.

The name of this Association shall be the "LAWRENCE CITY MISSION."

ARTICLE II. LOCATION.

This Association shall be established and located at Lawrence, in the County of Essex, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

ARTICLE III. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Association is the management and direction of such of the public charities of the City of Lawrence as may be entrusted to it, together with a general philanthropic and moral work.

BY-LAWS.

FIRST—MEETINGS.

The regular meetings of the Lawrence City Mission shall be held at such time and place in the month of October, each year, as the City Missionary shall appoint; and notice thereof shall be sent by mail at least three days before.

Second—Special Meetings.

Special meetings may be called at any time by the City Missionary, notice thereof being given in the same manner as the regular meetings.

Third—Officers.

The officers shall be a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor. The City Missionary shall be, *ex-officio*, Secretary.

Fourth—Duties of Officers.

The duties of the officers shall be such as usually pertain to their positions, and such as the society may impose upon them.

Fifth—Term of Office.

The officers shall hold office for the term of one year, and until their successors are appointed.

Sixth—Members.

New members may be admitted by vote at any regular or special meeting. Membership shall be terminated by removal from the city.

Seventh—Alterations.

These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Corporation regularly called, notice of the proposed alteration being given in the call for said meeting.

"Intelligent giving and intelligent withholding are alike true charity."

"The charity which is most effectual is that which is the most practical."

"That charity is bad which takes from independence its proper pride, from mendicancy its salutary shame."

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the LAWRENCE CITY MISSION, in the City of Lawrence, Massachusetts, the sum of
for the purposes of the Mission, and for which the receipt of the Treasurer, for the time being, shall be a sufficient discharge.